Volume 2, Issue 2

October 2014

Highlights:

- <u>Iowa Social Studies</u> <u>Update</u>
- <u>How Do You Assess</u> <u>Historical Thinking?</u>
- Social Studies News
- <u>Social Studies Re</u>sources
- <u>Professional Development Opportunities</u>
- <u>Social Studies</u>
 <u>Awards, Grants, and</u>
 <u>Competitions</u>

Check Out:

- The C3 Framework for Social Studies State
 Standards
- Social Studies "Agora"Site
 - -Click on social studies
- <u>Social Studies Google</u>
 Calendar
- <u>Iowa Social Studies on</u>
 <u>Twitter</u>
- <u>Iowa Social Studies on</u>
 <u>Diigo</u>
- <u>Iowa Department of</u>
 <u>Education Social Studies</u>
 Page

Questions?

Contact Stefanie Wager, social studies consultant at the Iowa Department of Education, at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov or 515-725-7842

Social Studies Update

Iowa Social Studies Update

We the People Is Back

We the People is a yearly competition involving high school students from across the United States. The competition has not taken place in Iowa for a number of years. The Iowa Bar Association would like to change that. Are you interested in We the People, but know nothing about it? Are you a We the People expert and want to get involved again? Check out this webpage for more information and see this flyer. Questions? Contact John Wheeler at jwheeler@iowabar.org.

New Iowa Core Website

Did you know there's a new Iowa Core website? This website includes four main sections:

- Explore the Core
- Educator Resources
- Parent and Community Resources
- Iowa Core Spotlight

You can now explore the Iowa Core in Social Studies in an interactive way and access over 800 social studies resources in the Educator Resources section.

Check it out by going to www.iowacore.gov.

Social Studies Professional Development is Coming to an AEA Near You

The Statewide Social Studies Leadership Team has been working hard for you. The team is designing modules around literacy in social studies and the instructional shifts needed to fully implement the Iowa Core. Professional development around these modules will be offered in each AEA later in the spring, so stay tuned. Questions? Contact me at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov.

How Do You Assess Historical Thinking?

"Historical thinking" and "thinking like a historian" are common phrases to hear these days when discussing best practices in the social studies. Getting students to think like a historian is definitely best practice, but what does that actually mean and how do you assess it? Glenn Wiebe (History Tech Guy) recently tried to address this by pointing out resources dedicated to examining assessment in historical think-

ing. They are:

- Beyond the Bubble (Stanford History Education Group)
- Historical Thinking Rubric
- <u>Library of Congress</u> Journal
- University of Maryland <u>Performance Assess-</u> ment Task Template
- University of Maryland

sample assessments

 University of Maryland Historical Thinking Skills Rubric

These resources are just the tip of the iceberg, but provide good background about how you might begin discussing historical thinking and quality assessments tied to it.

Social Studies News

Help a WWII Veteran

Roy Kouski helped liberate the Woobbelin concentration camp in Germany in 1945. He met a young Jewish prisoner named Paul, but had to lie to Paul in order to protect him. Roy has thought of Paul for years and wants your help to try to track him down. For the complete story, and pictures of Paul, go here. If you recognize Paul, please email Deb Bowen at abookbyme@gmail.com.

Is It Time for Civics to Make a Comeback?

There have been a flurry of civics related articles in the last month or so. First, an article by Rober Pondiscio entitled, <u>Do our children know how to be citizens?</u> Then, a Mind/Shift article entitled, Is it Time for Civics to make a Comeback? See the full article <u>here</u>. Finally, the Annenberg Public Policy Center released their latest survey results. See <u>America Fails Government</u> Test.

Teaching Tolerance Launches "Perspectives for a Diverse America"

Perspectives for a Diverse America is a literacy-based curriculum that marries anti-bias social justice content with the rigor of the Iowa Core Standards. It allows users to select an essential question, select a central text, and pick matching tasks and strategies.

Check it out at http://perspectives.tolerance.org

Library of Congress EBooks

The Library of Congress just released a series of EBooks that they call Student Discovery Sets. Topics include The Constitution, Immigration, The Dust Bowl, the Harlem Renaissance, Symbols of the United States, and Understanding the Cosmos. The EBooks are entirely FREE and work on tablets. Check them out by going to http://www.loc.gov/teachers/student-discovery-sets/.

Holocaust Books Will Be Available at Your AEA Library Soon

Fritzi "Fred" Lorber's life started in Vienna, Austria with a very loving Jewish family. When the Nazis invaded their country, their fears increased on *Kristallnach*t when Jewish homes, businesses and synagogues were attacked. Fritzi's father was taken to a concentration camp and the boy didn't know if he would return. Fortunately, he did come home and the the family was able to leave Europe and immigrate to the United States. He changed his name to



Fred and after serving in the US Army, moved his young wife to Des Moines, Iowa where they raised their family. A children's book has been written and illustrated about Fred's life. Three teens from Des Moines (Shirah Jacobs, Elizabeth Oxer, Hanna Kaufman) completed the project as part of the A BOOK by ME series. Copies of this book have been generously donated to each AEA lending libraries by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. Email Deb Bowen at abookbyme@gmail.com if you have questions.

Social Studies Resources

20 Good Map Creation Tools for Students

Richard Byrne has put together a fairly comprehensive list of digital mapping tools. The list includes **Wikia Maps**. This tool allows students to create maps on pictures. **Odyssey.js**, is an open source map tool that allows students to create mapped stories. Check out the entire list by going here.

Take a Tour of American during the Great Depression

Photographers like Dorthea Lange and Walker Evans took thousands of pictures during the Great Depression. Thanks to a partnership between the Library of Congress and Yale, these images are now available in a searchable online format. Check out the collection at http://photogrammar.yale.edu. Check out the Iowa photographs in the collection.

Check out the Historical Dictionary

The vocabulary of history can often be daunting for students and adults alike. History Today has an extensive online historical dictionary that is searchable and has browsing capabilities. Check it out by visiting www.historytoday.com/dictionary

Volume 2, Issue 2 Page 2

Social Studies Resources

C-SPAN Classroom Resources

C-SPAN Classroom literally has thousands of resources for social studies classrooms. Check out the C-SPAN Classroom homepage at www.c-spanclassroom.org. In addition, they have a lesson plan section, bell ringer video clips, information on their Student Cam video contest, and professional develop-

Academic Earth

Academic Earth provides FREE access to online college courses from the world's top universities. Course subjects range from Accounting to Psychology and features courses from Harvard, Stanford, and many other reputable universities. Check it out at www.academicearth.org.

Founders Online

This new website from the National Archives includes correspondence and others writings of six major "founding fathers." They include George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison. Check it out by going to http://founders.archives.gov

Comparative Constitutions **Project**

Have you ever wanted to see constitutions from around the world? This site not only gives you the chance to do that, but also to compare the US Constitution to other examples. In addition, each constitution can be downloaded in PDF form. Check it out at https://www.constituteproject.org/

AP US History Study Guide

The Gilder Lehrman Institute has launched a new AP US History study guide. The website includes resources about each historical period (1491-present) with videos, timelines, documents, and essays related to each time period. Check it out at http://ap.gilderlehrman.org.

NHD Launches 100 Great Leaders in World History Site

The National History Day (NHD) theme this year is Leadership and Legacy. Because of this, NHD has launched a website called 100 Leaders in World History. The site includes the list of leaders and classroom resources. Check out the website by going to www.100leaders.org.

Socratic Smackdown Game

Have you ever wondered how to get your students to better discuss social studies issues? The Socratic Smackdown Game aims to do just that. It is a printable game that can be played by up to 40 students and students are awarded points based on how well they discuss or lose points if they interrupt. Check it out here.

Iowa Gubernatorial Debate Featured on C-SPAN

The September 19th gubernatorial debate between Governor Terry Branstad and State Senator Jack Hatch was recently featured on C-SPAN. Check it out at http://www.c-spanclass room.org/Video/1877/2014+Iowa+Gubernatorial+Debate.aspx

History Now: Disasters in Modern American Memory

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History recently released their latest issue of History Now. The Fall 2014 topic is Disasters in Modern American History. The issue includes essays from noted Check out the full here.

Professional Development Opportunities

Free MOOC Social Studies Courses

MOOC stands for "Massive Open Online Course." They give participants the opportunity to learn on their own time and in their own way. These courses are not offered for credit.

- <u>Teaching Historical</u>
 <u>Inquiry with Objects</u>
- <u>Disciplinary Literacy for</u> <u>Deeper Learning</u>

Global Education Institute

The 2014 Global Education Institute for teachers will be held on the University of Iowa campus on December 6-7, 2014. The Institute is sponsored by the Stanley Foundation and UI International Programs. This year's participants will earn 1 license renewal credit. Forty middle and high school teachers will be selected and will receive FREE tuition. The first 25 teachers selected who live outside of the Iowa City area will receive FREE housing. For more information go here. Questions? Email amy-green-1@uiowa.edu. The application deadline is October 28th.

FREE Understanding Middle Eastern Culture Workshop

This workshop takes place January 15-16, 2015 on the campus of Buena Vista University in Storm Lake. All expenses are paid including housing, meals, books, and license renewal credit. The two day workshop includes guest speakers from a variety of disciplines, a field trip to a local mosque, viewing of artifacts, discussion, etc. Participation is limited to 15. For more information go here.

FREE Financial Literacy Workshop

Join the TS Institute and the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis for a day-long professional development program titled "Financial Literacy for Middle and High School Classrooms" Topics include earning income, spending, saving, credit, and investing. Each session will include classroom content and offer tools you can use right away. Registration and lunch are provided at no cost. To register and see the full flyer go here.

FREE Virtual Conference

Share My Lesson is offering an entirely FREE virtual conference. Presenters include the Council for Economic Education, PBS, Youth Leadership Initiative, Institute of Play, USA Today, the Library of Congress, ConSource, Student News Net, the Denver Art Museum, and many more. To register and see more sessions go to

www.sharemylesson.com/con ference.

FREE Webinar on the National History Day Process

Have you always wanted to have students participate in National History Day, but weren't sure where to start? Or, are you experienced with NHD and just want to hear more about this year's theme. Check out a webinar about the process at http://ia.nhd.org/theme.htm. Or email katie.craven@iowa.gov if you have questions.

"The First Amendment is often inconvenient.
But that is beside the point. Inconvenience does not absolve the government of its obligation to tolerate speech."
-Anthony Kennedy

Social Studies Awards, Grants, and Competitions

First Freedom Student Competition

This is a national essay and video content for 9th-12th grade students. Students examine the 1st Amendment and have a chance to win \$2,500. Check it out at www.firstfreedom.org.

Project Money

Project Money is like a science fair, but for advancing the financial literacy. Any Iowa high school student can participate and have the chance to win big prize money. Go to www.projectmoney.org for more information.

Virtual Supreme Court Competition

The Virtual Supreme Court competition offers teams of two high school students the opportunity to research constitutional law, write briefs, argue against other students through video chats and try to persuade a panel of attorneys that their side is correct. This year's case will look at Zivotofsky v. Kerry. For more information more check out www.harlaninstitute.org.

Volume 2, Issue 2 Page 4